EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING DANIEL CROWLEY OF SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

HON. JAHANA HAYES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Friday, April 16, 2021

Mrs. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call your attention to National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, which takes place annually on April 9th. This day honors the men and women who fought two battles, one in combat and another in enduring untold brutality by our enemies.

April 9th is also the 79th anniversary of the start of the infamous 1942 Bataan Death March in the Philippines. Invading Imperial Japanese forces forced more than 80,000 American and Filipino soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines to walk 65 miles up the Bataan Peninsula in the tropical heat without food, water, or medical care while subjecting them to beatings, bayonetting, and beheading. Thousands died.

One of my constituents, Daniel Crowley of Simsbury, Connecticut, is a survivor of the Battle of Bataan. A member of the U.S. Army Air Corps, he was sent to Bataan in December 1941 after Japan destroyed the military airfields in the Philippines. He was part of the United States Army's Provisional Air Corps Infantry Regiment and fought in the historic Battle of the Points on the Peninsula.

Daniel avoided the Bataan Death March by swimming from Mariveles on Bataan through three miles of shark-infested and mined waters to the fortress island of Corregidor. There, he became part of the 4th Marines Regimental Reserve who fought a dangerous and desperate shore defense until Corregidor fell to Japan on May 6, 1942.

He was one of 300 Prisoners of War sent to build an airstrip on Palawan Island for the Japanese Army. Today this site serves as the Philippine Air Force's Antonio Bautista Air Base. Daniel was fortunate to be transferred off the island before the December 14, 1944 Palawan Massacre where the 150 Prisoners of War remaining on the island were doused with aircraft fuel, set afire, and machine gunned to death.

Instead, Daniel was shipped to Japan aboard a "hellship" to be a laborer in two copper mines: one owned by Hitachi Ltd. and the other, Ashio, owned by the Furukawa Company Group. He labored alongside Japanese and conscripted Korean miners as well as Allied and American Prisoners of War from the United States, United Kingdom, Singapore, Hong Kong, Dutch East Indies, Norway, Australia, and China.

After liberation in September 1945, Daniel returned home to Connecticut. He raised a family and became a storied salesman for Northwestern Mutual.

On January 4, 2021, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont proclaimed "Pacific War Heroes Day" in Daniel's honor. After 76 years, Daniel, 98, finally received his long-denied Combat Infantryman Badge, a Prisoner of War Medal, and his previously unknown 1945 promotion to Sergeant in a ceremony held at the Air National Guard Base outside Hartford, Connecticut.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring now Sergeant Daniel Crowley for his extraordinary service to our country fighting tyranny and oppression. His and the more than 200 American Prisoners of War of Japan from Connecticut have a history we must never forget.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. GILBERT SINCLAIR SMITH

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Friday, April 16, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Dr. Gilbert Sinclair Smith.

Gilbert Sinclair Smith was born July 25, 1931, to the late Mr. Albert and Mrs. Gertrude Smith. He was raised in Miami, Florida in the community of Liberty City.

After graduating high school, he joined the United States Air Force. During his time in the service, he began to have a deep hunger and desire to whole-heartedly serve the Lord. It was then that he had a dream that led him to the book of Acts 1:7-8. He realized that he needed the power of the Holy Ghost and one week later at a revival, he received the gift of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking tongues. The following Sunday morning, February 8, 1954, he preached his first sermon titled, "You Must Be Born Again." Once he left the Air Force, he traveled around the United States of America evangelizing and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a National Evangelist, he conducted tent revivals throughout America, Jamaica, Belize, and Honduras. In 1965, Dr. Smith went to Selma, Alabama to run a revival after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s march. This march was later called Bloody Sunday.

In 1970 the Lord led Dr. Smith and his wife, Mrs. Geneva O. Smith, to begin the Apostolic Revival Center. The ministry started in a storefront church on 62nd Street and 14th Avenue in Miami, Florida. The ministry began with 7 adult members and a group of kids out of the projects of the Liberty City community in Miami, Florida. On May 31, 1971, the church was registered with the State of Florida an independent organization, "Apostolic Evangelistic Association, Inc. Dr. Smith and his beautiful wife began supporting World Missionary Evangelism. They also assumed the responsibility of monthly support for three native missionaries working in Africa, India, and the Philippine Islands. Dr. Smith began an aggressive radio ministry, broadcasting on eight stations throughout Florida. The church experienced tremendous growth spiritually, financially and numerically, causing Dr. Smith and his wife to realize the need for a larger facility that would accommodate the needs of a growing church. They purchased the old Liberty Theater building, the church's current location, which became the Apostolic Revival Center, better known as the Shack, which has now been named a historical landmark.

In 1974, Dr. Smith and his wife began supporting a Pastor in Haiti. God blessed them to purchase land in Leogan and build their first mission church. Later a school was added onto the property.

In 1978, through Dr. Smith, the prison ministry to the incarcerated men of Miami-Dade and Broward counties was formed. This ministry covered the state of Florida and the entire east coast with annual campaigns in Attica Prison in New York. The prison ministry expanded to the women prisons and aftercare services to men scheduled for release from the Miami-Dade County jail system.

In 1981, as Dr. Smith and his wife continued their commitment to foreign missions, the Lord blessed the Apostolic Revival Center in Miami. The church purchased the adjacent properties across the street which covered the entire block of northwest 15th Avenue. The newly acquired property became the home of the Revival Center Child Care Center for children 6 weeks to 5 years old.

Dr. Smith supported a Bible Ministry in Israel which led to his dream of a minister in Nairobi, Kenya. Subsequently, he began a ministry in Kenya. Today, there are over 150 Revival Centers in Kenya from the plains, mountains and coast. Many years later, the call of God came for Dr. Smith to journey to Tanzania to establish a church in Dar Es Saalam. As a result, there are seven Revival Centers, a childcare center, and an orphanage in Tanzania.

In 1983, Dr. Smith and his wife opened the Distribution Center to help the needy with clothing and food with the help of the American Red Cross. This 501c3 program supplied thousands of families per month with food and food vouchers.

In 1986, the Apostolic Revival Center taped its first television broadcast. This is reported to be the longest-running African American TV ministry in South Florida. Dr. Smith and his wife purchased their own television equipment and began broadcasting from directly at the Apostolic Revival Center. In 1988, the "Hope For Today" television broadcast was formed and televised every Sunday on cable networks and satellites. "Hope For Today" broadcast expanded nationally.

In the early 1990's, the ministry expanded to the Caribbean Islands, Belize, Central American, and Georgetown Guyana. The Revival Center purchased and dedicated a church and school in St. Anns, Jamaica. Bibles were distributed to Russia through mission possible in Dallas. In 1998, Dr. Smith and his wife supported the work in Belize. There are 8 Revival Center churches in Nicaragua, 16 in Guyana, 2 in Haiti, 1 in Grenada and 2 in Trinidad with 2 schools.

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